

DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO: COMMISSIONER KJELLANDER
COMMISSIONER REDFORD
COMMISSIONER RAPER
COMMISSION SECRETARY
LEGAL
WORKING FILE**

FROM: GRACE SEAMAN

DATE: MARCH 25, 2015

**RE: CRICKET COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S APPLICATION TO
RELINQUISH ITS ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATION CARRIER
DESIGNATION; CASE NO. CRI-T-11-01.**

On March 6, 2015, Cricket Communications, Inc. ("Cricket" or the "Company") filed a Notice of Relinquishment of its eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") designation in Idaho pursuant to 47 U.S.C § 214(e)(4), 47 C.F.R. § 54.204 and Idaho Code § 62-610D(4). The Commission granted federal Lifeline-only ETC status to Cricket on March 27, 2012. *See* Order No. 32501.

Cricket is currently licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as a Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) provider in Idaho. On March 13, 2014, Cricket became a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of AT&T. Cricket now wishes to relinquish its ETC designation in Idaho effective April 30, 2015.

The Company states that it has fewer than 700 Lifeline customers within its ETC designated area in Idaho. These customers will receive notification (no later than April 6, 2015) of Cricket's plan to withdraw from the federal Lifeline program effective April 30, 2015. Thereafter, customers may select an alternative competitive calling plan from the Company or they may continue to obtain the Lifeline benefit by selecting another ETC provider. If a customer decides to obtain service from another provider, Cricket will not impose an early termination fee.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has reviewed the Application and believes the Company meets the statutory requirements for relinquishment of the ETC designation. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 54.205(a). Staff also believes that Cricket's Lifeline subscribers have competitively-priced alternatives with the Company as well as with other ETC providers in Idaho. Thus, Staff recommends Commission approval.

COMMISSION DECISION

Does the Commission approve Cricket's Application to relinquish its ETC designation in Idaho?


Grace Seaman

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